PART II—Section 2.

NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT

No. G. 4511—*V. V.* 5-23-8, *dated* 10*th September* 1923.

It is hereby notified that in consequence of Khedda Operations the Mysore-Manantody Road between the 133rd and 138th mile stones will be closed to all vehicular traffic from 15th October to 6th December 1923, inclusive between 6 P.M. and 6 A.M. and to timber traffic both day and night.

No. G. 4514—*V. V.* 5-23-7, *dated* 10*th September* 1923.

It is hereby notified that the Mysore-Manantody Road from Mysore to the frontier of the State at the 144th mile will be closed to all timber traffic from 1st October 1923, till the 6th December 1923, inclusive.

No. G. 37—*P. P., Mysore, dated* 19*th October* 1923.

The following Notice No. 8210, dated the 15th October 1923, issued by the Mysore Residency on the subject of Visas on passports is hereby published for general information:—

"On and after the 31st March 1923, Italian subjects will no longer require a British Visa for the purpose of entering the United Kingdom and British subjects will not require an Italian Visa if travelling to Italy."

By Order,
K. MATTHAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

LOCAL AND LEGISLATIVE SECRETARIAT.

No. L. 2686—*Sany.* 10-23-2, *dated* 13*th October* 1923.

The accompanying revised Plague Regulations, prescribed for the Presidency Town of Madras by the Government of Madras in their orders Nos. 962, 962 A. P. H. dated 15th June 1923, is hereby published for general information.

Notification.

Plague Regulations in force in the Presidency Town.

Whereas certain parts of the Presidency of Madras are visited by, and the City of Madras is threatened with, an outbreak of the dangerous epidemic disease known as plague, and whereas the provision of the law for the time being in force in the City are insufficient for the purpose of preventing the outbreak or the spread of the disease.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 2-A of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, as amended by the Devolution Act XXXVIII of 1920, the Local Government is pleased to prescribe, in supersession of all regulations previously issued on the subject, the following temporary regulations to be observed in City of Madras for a period of five years from the 1st day of October 1923:—

(1) The Local Government may, by Notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, declare the City of Madras or any portion thereof in which one or more indigenous cases of plague have occurred, or in which the existence of plague among rats has been proved, to be infected with plague. In similar circumstances, the Commissioner of the Corporation may notify by tom-tom and by publication in the local papers that the City or any portion thereof is infected with plague, informing the Government forthwith of the fact that he has done so.

(2) When the City or any portion of it has been declared under the preceding regulation to be infected, or when any area adjoining the City has under Regulation 2 of the regulations in force outside the Presidency Town been declared infected, the Commissioner may close any market and may appoint special places where markets may be held and may prescribe limits beyond which it shall not be lawful for persons bringing articles for sale from or to an infected area to pass.

(3) In any portion of the City which has been declared infected the Commissioner or the Health Officer with the previous sanction of the Commissioner may order the evacuation of the infected houses and houses in their neighbourhood, or generally of any infected locality.

Provided that, before issuing or authorising an order for compulsory evacuation, the Commissioner shall either provide adequate and suitable shelter within reasonable distance for the persons evicted together with the necessary water-supply and arrangements for watch and ward, or shall satisfy himself that such shelter and water-supply have been provided by private agency. The Commissioner shall also satisfy himself that the compulsory evacuation is necessary to avert the further spread of the disease, or is in the interests of the affected population taking account of climatic conditions.

The Commissioner may require all persons who evacuate their houses voluntarily, or are evicted under this regulation, to reside in such place as he may appoint.

Nothing contained in this rule shall be deemed to supply to persons who have been successfully inoculated against plague during the nine months prior to the declaration of a locality being affected or who get themselves inoculated within 24 hours of such declaration.

(4) In any portion of the City which has been declared infected the Commissioner may enter upon, occupy and use or may depute any person to enter upon, occupy and use without having recourse to the Provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, any building or place which is required for, and is, in the opinion of the Health Officer suitable for, any purposes connected with plague measures; provided that, if the building or place is occupied, twenty-four hours' notice in writing shall be given to the occupier or shall be conspicuously affixed on such building or place. The owner or the lessee of such building or place shall be entitled to a reasonable rent to the fixed by the Commissioner for the period during which the ground or building may be used for purposes connected with plague; and the Commissioner shall when any building ceases to be so used, cause it to be thoroughly cleansed and, if the owner so desires, whitewashed internally and externally.

(5) If the Commissioner is of the opinion that the destruction of any hut or shed is necessary to prevent the spread of plague, he may take summary measures for the destruction of such hut or shed and of the materials of which it is constructed.

(6) The Commissioner may direct that any dwelling house or any landing place or railway goods-shed or any place used for the storage of grain shall be inspected and that all rats found therein shall be destroyed; and to facilitate the destruction of rats may order the temporary removal of any grain or other merchandise.

(7) The Commissioner may direct that at any place in the City any consignment of grain, being conveyed by rail, road or otherwise, shall be examined, and shall, if necessary, be unloaded and exposed to the sun in such manner and for such period as he may fix.

(8) Every householder and every medical practitioner shall at once report to the Health Officer any case of Plague or any case of fever with glandular swellings or any unusual mortality among rats which may come to his notice.

(9) (i) In the absence of a written contract the contrary, every inspector, maistri, peon, watchmen, coolie, scavenger or other menial servant employed to do duty in connection with plague shall be entitled to one month's notice before discharge, or to one month's wages in lieu thereof, unless he is discharged for misconduct or was engaged for a specified term and is discharged at the end of it. Similarly every supplier of coolies shall be entitled to one month's notice before his coolies are discharged.

(ii) No such inspector, maistri, peon, watchman, coolie, scavenger or other menial servant shall, in the absence of a written contract authorising him to do so, and without reasonable cause, resign his employment or absent himself from his duties without giving one month's notice or shall neglect or refuse to perform any of his duties. In like manner no supplier of coolies or other menial servants shall withdraw his coolies or servants without giving one month's notice.

(10) When in consequence of the exercise of the powers conferred by or under these regulations any property is damaged or destroyed, the Commissioner shall pay to the owner by way of compensation such sum as he may consider sufficient to cover the cost of repairing the damage or replacing the property destroyed.

NOTE:—(1) The Plague Regulations being orders formally made and issued by Government under the Epidemic Diseases Act, no sanction is required as a condition precedent to prosecution for disobeying them (Judgment of the High Court in Criminal Appeal No. 561 of 1899.

(2) By Command Order No. 687, dated 18th November 1898, all ranks in the Madras Command have been directed to obey the Plague Regulations and any infringement of them is punishable as a military offence. Military pensioners have been warned (Superintendent's Circular No. 11, dated 14th December 1898) that any disobedience or wilful neglect of the regulations or obstruction offered to any official on plague duty will be treated as a breach of the good conduct required by Government as a condition of the continuation of their pensions and that any pensioner being guilty thereof will be liable to have his pension stopped forthwith and the same reduced or permanently withdrawn.

By Order,
B. NAGAPPA,
Secretary to Government,
Local and Legislative Departments.

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